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April 15, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU USES DRUNK DRIVING SIMULATOR TO RAISE AWARENESS

CHARLESTON -- The Eastern Illinois University Health Service is coordinating the Dodge Neon Drunk Driving Simulator from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, April 21 in the Ninth Street parking lot next to Greek Court on the EIU campus.

As part of Alcohol Awareness Month at Eastern, the simulator is meant to raise awareness of the loss of fine motor skills when drinking alcoholic beverages and the dangers of drunk driving.

The specifically outfitted simulator vehicle can be programmed with an individual's weight and the number of alcoholic beverages needed for that person to be considered impaired. Behind the wheel of the simulator, the driver sees and feels what it would be like if he or she was actually driving drunk.

All licensed drivers are invited to come out and try to navigate the vehicle through an obstacle course. Drivers and passengers will be accommodated on a first-come, first-serve basis.

-more-

ADD 1/1/1/1

SIMULATOR

The event is sponsored by Chrysler Corporation, presented by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and funded by the Charleston Alcohol Task Force through a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation.